

FISS Program

I. Purpose

The Family Intervention Support and Services program is designed to assess and provide services to families experiencing difficulties with their adolescent age 12-18 who reside in Milwaukee County. The goal of the programs is to strengthen the parent's ability to support their adolescent and to prevent the need for legal intervention.

The FISS program is voluntary and has two components: the assessment function and the case management function.

II. Funding

Case Rate of \$875.00 per assessment up to annual max. of \$746,375. Behavioral Health Division (BHD) contributes Mental Health Bloc Grant funds (\$75,000) plus Medicaid monies.

III. Staff Composition/Hours of Service

- 2 Assessment staff
- 4 Case Managers
- Families have the choice of receiving an in-home or office-based appointment (65% choose in-home)
- Office hours are M-F 8:00AM-5:00PM, (walk-ins are accepted) and two Saturday mornings per month by appointment
- Access to Wraparound Milwaukee Service Network

IV. Families Served

- 7/1/12-6/30/13 FISS served over 1,300 individuals
- 919 assessments conducted
- 303 enrolled in the FISS case management portion of the program
- Average number of assessments per month: 73
- Average number of individuals enrolled at the end of each month: 78

V. Service most often utilized by families enrolled in on-going FISS case management

- Case Management
- Crisis 1:1 stabilization
- Parenting assistance
- Individual and family therapy
- Other community resources

VI. Outcomes/Accomplishments

- 80% of the assessed youth are diverted from system involvement
 - 49% Community Services
 - 31% enrolled in FISS case management
 - 11% Children's Court
 - 9% referred to Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare (BMCW)
- Families are regularly connected to sustainable community agencies/supports including REACH for longer-term behavioral health services

VII. Remaining Challenges for FISS

Streamline process for determining which children require CHIPS (Child In need of Protection or Services) versus JIPS (Juvenile In need of Protection or Services) referral